

## FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION Washington, DC 20463

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**APR 13 2011** 

By Email and First Class Mail Jason Torchinsky, Esq. Michael Bayes, Esq. Hotzman Vogel, PLLC 45 North Hill Drive, Suite 100 Warrunton, VA 20186 jtorchinsky@heltzmanlaw.net

**RE:** MUR 6466

**Robert Aderholt for Congress** 

Dear Messrs. Torchinsky and Bayes:

On April 6, 2011, the Federal Election Commission found that there is reason to believe that Robert Aderholt for Congenus, and Jeff Mobley, in his official capacity as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(b), a provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). This finding was hand on information ascertained by the Commission in the normal course of carrying out its supervisory responsibilities. See 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(2). The Factual and Legal Analysis, which more fully explains the Commission's finding is attached for your information.

You may submit any factual or legal materials that you believe are relevant to the Commission's consideration of this matter. Please submit such materials to the General Coursel's Office within 15 days of your receipt of this letter. Where appropriate, statements should be submitted under oath. In the absence of additional information, the Commission may find probable cause to believe that a violation has occurred and proceed with conciliation.

Please note that you have a legal obligation to preserve all documents, records and materials relating to this matter until such time as you are notified that the Commission has closed its file in this matter. See 18 U.S.C. § 1519.

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Requests for extensions of time will not be routinely granted. Requests must be made in writing at least five days prior to the due date of the response and specific good cause must be demonstrated. In addition, the Office of the General Counsel ordinarily will not give extensions beyond 20 days.

This matter wifl remain confidential in accordance with 2 U.S.C. §§ 437g(a)(4)(B) and 437g(a)(12)(A), unless you notify the Commission in writing that you wish the investigation to be made public.

For your information, we have enclosed a brief description of the Commission's procedures for handling possible violations of the Act. If you have any questions, please contact Michael Columbo, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1341.

> On behalf of the Commission. On benau or and Burney

Cynthia L. Bauerly

Chair

**Enclosures** Factual and Legal Analysis **Procedures** 

1	BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
2 3 4	FACTUAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
5 6	In the Matter of Signature 1 MUR 6466
7 8 9 10 11	Robert Aderholt for Congress and  Jeff Mobley, in his official capacity as treasurer.  )
12 13 14	I. GENERATION OF MATTER  This matter was generated based on information ascertained by the Federal Election
15	Commission ("the Commission") in the normal course of earrying out its supervisory
16	responsibilities and by a sua sponte submission filed with the Commission by Robert Aderholt
17	for Congress ("the Committee") and Jeff Mobley, in his official capacity as treasurer. See
18	2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(2).
19	II. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>
20	On December 21, 2010, Robert Aderholt for Congress and Jeff Mobley, in his official
21	capacity as treasurer, (the "Committee") the principal campaign committee of U.S.
22	Representative Robert Aderholt, filed a sua sponte submission ("Sua Sponte") disclosing
23	unexplained discrepancies between the amount of the cash on hand ("COH") that the Committee
24	disclosed in its reports to the Commission and its bank account balances from 2004 though
25	2009. According to the Sua Spente, Committee staff discovered this discrepancy in late 2009,
26	after replacing its bookkeeper. Sua Sponte at 1. The Committee subsequently determined that
27	the discrepancy between its actual COH and its disclosed COH grew from approximately \$3,800
28	at the close of 2004 to \$98,000 in September 2007. Id. After some fluctuation, the final
29	discrepancy at the end of 2009 was approximately \$56,000. Id.

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2 U.S.C. § 434(b).

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## III. <u>FACTUAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS</u>

2	The Act requires committees to disclose their COH in each report filed with the
3	Commission. See 2 U.S.C. § 434(b)(1). The Committee's Sua Sponte and additional
4	information from the Committee establishes that the Committee disclosed an inaccurate amount
5	of COH to the Commission in its disclosure reports filed from December 31, 2004, through
6	December 2, 2010.
7	The Committee first contacted the Commission's Reports Analysis Division ("RAD") on
8	May 18, 2010, to disclose the issue and their ongoing internal review. After several more phone
9	contacts on this issue in June of 2010, the Committee's new bookkeeper and Committee counsel
10	met with RAD on December 9, 2010. See Sua Sponte at 2 and 4. Following advice provided by
11	RAD at the meeting, the Committee filed an amended 2010 post general report to reflect its
12	actual cash balance. The Committee's original 2010 post general report, filed on December 2,
13	2010, disclosed a COH of \$147,176.28 at the end of the reporting period. The Committee's
14	amended 2010 post general report, filed on December 21, 2010, disclosed a COH of \$94,793.89,
15	which corrected a \$52,382.39 discrepancy.
16 17	IV. <u>CONCLUSION</u>
18	The available information indicates that the Committee filed disclosure reports which did
19	not accurately disclose the Committee's cash on hand. Accordingly, there is reason to believe
20	that Robert Aderholt for Congress and Jeff Mobley, in his official capacity as treasurer, violated